# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
RAILWAY FREIGHT SERVICE
Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Railway Zones are facing difficulties in catering to the existing demand of freight services; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to provide the adequate freight services in these Railway Zones ?

## Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.458 BY SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD AND SHRI JIVABHAI AMBALAL PATEL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.04.2008 REGARDING RAILWAY FREIGHT SERVICE.

(a) & (b): Railway Zones have, by and large, catered to the existing demand of freight services satisfactorily. In fact, the Indian Railways have surpassed the initial budget targets of 785 million Tonnes (MT) for the year 2007-08 and the revised estimate targets of 790 MT by achieving a total freight loading of 794.21 MT. However, in certain sectors, there are some gaps between demand and supply due to seasonal fluctuations, operational constraints, limitations of terminals, etc. The Railways has a lot of ongoing works in the form of throughput enhancement works, traffic facility works, network capacity enhancement, development of freight terminals, etc. which generate further capacity for handling of additional freight. The above steps along with increased production/acquisition of rolling stock should ensure provision of adequate freight services in the Railway Zones.